

IN THE CLAIMS:

On substitute page 11, cancel "Patent Claims" and substitute --**I CLAIM**

AS MY INVENTION:-- therefor.

Cancel claims 1-10.

5 1-10 (Cancelled).

Add the following new claims:

11. (New) A switching circuit for an electromagnetic source for generating acoustic waves, comprising:

10 a first capacitor connected in parallel with a series circuit composed of
a second capacitor and an electronic switch;

a coil of an electromagnetic source connected to said first capacitor
and to said series circuit; and

15 first and second capacitors being dimensioned, and said electronic
switch being operated, for causing, after said first and second
capacitors are charged, said electronic switch to assume a
blocking state during discharge of said first capacitor as long as
said first capacitor is charged with a larger voltage than said
second capacitor, and said electronic switch switching to a
conductive state as soon as the voltage of the first capacitor,
20 during discharge thereof, reaches substantially the voltage of
said second capacitor, whereupon said second capacitor begins
to discharge and said first capacitor continues to discharge, said
first and second discharging capacitors feeding said coil with
current.

25 12. (New) A switching circuit as claimed in claim 11 wherein said
electronic switch is a diode.

13. (New) A switching circuit as claimed in claim 11 wherein said
electronic switch is a diode module.

14. (New) A switching circuit as claimed in claim 11 wherein said first capacitor is dimensioned to be charged with a greater charging voltage than said second capacitor, before discharge of said first capacitor and said second capacitor.

5 15. (New) A switching circuit as claimed in claim 11 comprising a first direct voltage source connected to said first capacitor for charging said first capacitor and a second direct voltage source connected to said second capacitor for charging said second capacitor.

10 16. (New) A switching circuit as claimed in claim 11 comprising a single direct voltage source connected to said first capacitor for charging said first capacitor and connected to said second capacitor for charging said second capacitor, and a switching element connected between said single direct voltage source and said second capacitor for disconnecting said second capacitor from said single direct voltage source when said second capacitor is
15 fully charged.

17. (New) A switching circuit as claimed in claim 16 wherein said switching element comprises at least one semiconductor element.

18. (New) A switching circuit as claimed in claim 11 wherein said electronic switch is a first electronic switch, and comprising a series circuit
20 composed of a second electronic switch and a third capacitor connected in parallel with said series circuit composed of said second capacitor and said first electronic switch, and a third electronic switch connected in parallel with said first capacitor.

19. (New) A switching circuit as claimed in claim 18 wherein said
25 second electronic switch is a diode.

20. (New) A switching circuit as claimed in claim 18 wherein said second electronic switch is a diode module.

21. (New) A switching circuit as claimed in claim 18 wherein said third electronic switch is a diode.

30 22. (New) A switching circuit as claimed in claim 18 wherein said third electronic switch is a diode module.

23. (New) An electromagnetic source for generating acoustic waves, comprising:

a switching circuit comprising a first capacitor connected in parallel with a series circuit composed of a second capacitor and an electronic switch, a coil of an electromagnetic source connected to said first capacitor and to said series circuit, and first and second capacitors being dimensioned, and said electronic switch being operated, for causing, after said first and second capacitors are charged, said electronic switch to assume a blocking state during discharge of said first capacitor as long as said first capacitor is charged with a larger voltage than said second capacitor, and said electronic switch switching to a conductive state as soon as the voltage of the first capacitor, during discharge thereof, reaches substantially the voltage of said second capacitor, whereupon said second capacitor begins to discharge and said first capacitor continues to discharge, said first and second discharging capacitors feeding said coil with current; and

a membrane disposed adjacent said coil that is repelled by said coil dependent on said current in said coil.

24. (New) A lithotripter comprising:

an electromagnetic source comprising a switching circuit comprising a first capacitor connected in parallel with a series circuit composed of a second capacitor and an electronic switch, a coil of an electromagnetic source connected to said first capacitor and to said series circuit, and first and second capacitors being dimensioned, and said electronic switch being operated, for causing, after said first and second capacitors are charged, said electronic switch to assume a blocking state during discharge of said first capacitor as long as said first capacitor is charged with a larger voltage than said second capacitor, and said electronic switch switching to a conductive state as soon as the voltage of

the first capacitor, during discharge thereof, reaches substantially the voltage of said second capacitor, whereupon said second capacitor begins to discharge and said first capacitor continues to discharge, said first and second
5 discharging capacitors feeding said coil with current, and a membrane disposed adjacent said coil that is repelled by said coil dependent on said current in said coil;
an acoustic lens disposed in a path of said acoustic waves for focusing said acoustic waves; and
10 a cushion having a hollow interior filled with acoustic propagation medium through which the focused acoustic waves propagate, said cushion being adapted for placement against a subject to be treated with said focused acoustic waves.